

§ 1.481 Payment of international preliminary examination fees.

(a) The handling and preliminary examination fees shall be paid within the time period set in PCT Rule 57.3. The handling fee or preliminary examination fee payable is the handling fee or preliminary examination fee in effect on the date of receipt of the Demand except under PCT Rule 59.3(a) where the fee payable is the fee in effect on the date of arrival of the Demand at the United States International Preliminary Examining Authority.

(1) If the handling and preliminary fees are not paid within the time period set in PCT Rule 57.3, applicant will be notified and given one month within which to pay the deficient fees plus a late payment fee equal to the greater of:

(i) Fifty percent of the amount of the deficient fees, but not exceeding an amount equal to double the handling fee; or

(ii) An amount equal to the handling fee (PCT Rule 58bis.2).

(2) The one-month time limit set in this paragraph to pay deficient fees may not be extended.

(b) If the payment needed to cover the handling and preliminary examination fees, pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section, is not timely made in accordance with PCT Rule 58bis.1(d), the United States International Preliminary Examination Authority will declare the Demand to be considered as if it had not been submitted.

[63 FR 29619, June 1, 1998]

§ 1.482 International preliminary examination fees.

(a) The following fees and charges for international preliminary examination are established by the Commissioner under the authority of 35 U.S.C. 376:

(1) A preliminary examination fee is due on filing the Demand:

(i) Where an international search fee as set forth in § 1.445(a)(2) has been paid on the international application to the United States Patent and Trademark Office as an International Searching Authority, a preliminary examination fee of—\$490.00

(ii) Where the International Searching Authority for the international ap-

plication was an authority other than the United States Patent and Trademark Office, a preliminary examination fee of—\$750.00

(2) An additional preliminary examination fee when required, per additional invention:

(i) Where the International Searching Authority for the international application was the United States Patent and Trademark Office—\$140.00

(ii) Where the International Searching Authority for the international application was an authority other than the United States Patent and Trademark Office—\$270.00

(b) The handling fee is due on filing the Demand.

(35 U.S.C. 6, 376)

[52 FR 20048, May 28, 1987, as amended at 56 FR 65154, Dec. 13, 1991; 57 FR 38196, Aug. 21, 1992; 58 FR 4346, Jan. 14, 1993; 60 FR 41023, Aug. 11, 1995; 61 FR 39588, July 30, 1996; 62 FR 40453, July 29, 1997]

§ 1.484 Conduct of international preliminary examination.

(a) An international preliminary examination will be conducted to formulate a non-binding opinion as to whether the claimed invention has novelty, involves an inventive step (is non-obvious) and is industrially applicable.

(b) International preliminary examination will begin promptly upon receipt of a proper Demand in an application for which the United States International Preliminary Examining Authority is competent, for which the fees for international preliminary examination (§ 1.482) have been paid, and which requests examination based on the application as filed or as amended by an amendment which has been received by the United States International Preliminary Examining Authority. Where a Demand requests examination based on a PCT Article 19 amendment which has not been received, examination may begin at 20 months without receipt of the PCT Article 19 amendment. Where a Demand requests examination based on a PCT Article 34 amendment which has not been received, applicant will be notified and given a time period within which to submit the amendment.

(1) Examination will begin after the earliest of: